



Washington, D.C. 20505

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OLL 84-2699

31 JUL 1984

The Honorable Benjamin J. Guthrie  
Clerk of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Guthrie:

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Pursuant to a conversation with your General Counsel, Steven Ross, the Agency is formally requesting your authorization for [redacted] a member of the Director of Central Intelligence's (DCI) History Staff, to review certain Agency records which were sealed by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) in 1978. We understand that you now act as custodian of those records on behalf of the House.

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[redacted] has been asked to prepare an official history of Richard Helms during his tenure as DCI. In connection with this project, [redacted] needs to review certain Agency files relating to Soviet defectors. Among other things, these files contain former DCI Helm's testimony concerning these defectors provided before HSCA in executive session.

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These same files were reviewed by HSCA in 1978 and are subject to an agreement reached between HSCA and CIA that those Agency files reviewed by HSCA would be held in sealed and segregated storage and not further disclosed without the written concurrence of the House of Representatives. In addition to the House's concurrence, the Agency also requires that further access to these files will be granted only with the approval of the Office of Legislative Liaison and the Office of General Counsel. Both of these Agency approvals have been obtained, and we are now seeking your concurrence in our decision to make these files available to [redacted] for the above-stated historical review purposes.

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[redacted] of my office is available to provide whatever additional information you may require in considering this request. Your cooperation on this matter is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

/s/Charles A. Briggs

Charles A. Briggs  
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - OLL Chrono
- 1 - LEG Subject (Misc.)
- 1 - D/OLL
- 1 - DD/OLL
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